

Bill keeps in place 2010 pay freeze and will save taxpayers more than a million dollars "

WASHINGTON—Today, **Congressman Mike Quigley (D-IL)** helped pass a measure to block federal lawmakers from receiving automatic pay increases for the 2011 fiscal year. Quigley is an original co-sponsor of the bill and has supported [similar legislation in the past](#)

"I am honored to hold the job my constituents have elected me to do, but know that others are not as fortunate," Quigley said. **"With unemployment in Illinois above the national average and a soaring national deficit, elected officials need to spend taxpayer dollars more wisely, by taking care of working families, not ourselves."**

In 1989, Congress approved a process that provides lawmakers with an automatic pay raise unless they vote specifically to reject the raise. Today's bill – H.R. 5146 – will block the annual cost-of-living adjustment for the salaries of Members of Congress in 2011 – saving taxpayers about a million dollars. The Senate passed identical legislation (S. 3244) denying the automatic \$1,600 pay raise last week.

H.R. 5146 passed the House this afternoon and continues the current pay freeze already in place for 2010.

Quigley [testified in front of the House Budget Committee](#) about the importance of an open and honest budget and also introduced a ["Sense of the House" resolution](#) to set attainable goals for reining in both the national debt and annual deficit. Last year, he returned \$100,000 of his annual office budget to the U.S. Treasury as part of his commitment to fiscal responsibility.